Message Text

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NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RH, UK, PDEV

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE MEETING OF RHODESIAN PRINCIPALS IN SWAZILAND

1. WE ARE ACTIVELY WORKING WITH BRITISH IN ATTEMPT TO BRING ABOUT AN UNPUBLICIZED MEETING OF THE RHODESIAN PRINCIPALS IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE. HIGH LEVEL PARTICIPATION BY U.S. AND HMG OFFICIALS IS BEING CONSIDERED. THOUGH SITES IN BOTSWANA, ZAMBIA AND RHODESIA HAVE BEEN MENTIONED, SWAZILAND NOW APPEARS TO BE PREFERRED VENUE AS IT IS THE LEAST OFFENSIVE LOCALE FOR ALL POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS.

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- 2. DEPARTMENT NEEDS URGENTLY YOUR VIEWS ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS. YOU SHOULD NOT RPT NOT DISCUSS THIS ISSUE WITH THE SWAZI GOVERNMENT OR EVEN OTHER U.S. OFFICIALS AT THIS TIME.
- (A) IS SWAZI GOVERNMENT LIKELY TO ACCEPT IDEA OF HOLDING SECRET MEETING IN SWAZILAND AND CAN IT OFFER

NECESSARY ASSISTANCE IN MANNER WHICH WOULD PROTECT MEETINGS CONFIDENTIALITY?

(B) IS THERE A CONVENIENT LOCALE, PREFERABLY AN ISOLATED

OR ISOLATABLE PRIVATE LODGE OR HOTELACCESIBLE TO SMALL AIRCRAFT WHICH COULD ACCOMODATE APPROXIMATELY 20-30 INDIVIDUALS FOR TWO DAY CONFERENCE? (IF SO, WHAT IS MAXIMUM SIZE OF AIRCRAFT WHICH COULD BE HANDLED?)

- (C) WE ARE AWARE THAT KING SOBHUZA MAINTAINS RETREAT WHERE HE HAS OCCASIONALLY SCHEDULED PRIVATE MEETINGS. IS THIS LOCALE A POSSIBILITY?
- 3. OBVIOUSLY, MANY MORE QUESTIONS RELATING TO TECHNICAL DETAILS OF SUCH A MEETING WILL BE RAISED, BUT FOR THE PRESENT, WE ARE INTERESTED IN YOUR RESPONSE TO ABOVE AND YOUR GENERAL VIEWS ON FEASABILITY OF MANAGING UNPUBLICIZED GATHERING OF RHODESIAN PRINCIPALS IN SWAZILAND. VANCE

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